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M. Dougmergue, the minister of public instruction. This reform received the approval of the French Academy as long ago as 1893, but has not heretofore received government sanction. It provides for the suppression of the "h" in the Greek group of words like "rhetorique," "rhinoceros," etc., the substitution of "i" for "y" in "analyse," "style," etc., the substitution of "c" for the sibilant "t" in words like "confidential," etc., and the extension of the "s" as a sign of the plural in words ending in "ou," "eau" and "au." It also provides for the suppression of the "h" in words like "theatre," the substitution of "f" for "ph" in words like "phenomene" and the elimination of the double "n" in words like "paysanne."

SINCE 1890 there has existed in Paris a little museum of hygiene, containing among other things, the exhibits which figured in the Paris pavilion of hygiene at the exposition of 1900, and which have to do especially with the sanitation of dwellings, the emptying of latrines and sewers, etc. According to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association there is now a plan to complete and to install the collections so as to make of them a real model museum of hygiene and sanitation. It will comprise the twelve following sections: Air and light (composition, meteorology; lighting of the city; lighting, heating and ventilation of the house); water (composition and bacteriology; flowing waters of rivers and springs, ozonation; distribution, filters, private baths, etc.); food and clothing (composition of foods, nutritive value, adulteration, sterilization of milk; hygiene of clothing, impermeability, etc.); preventive hygiene (disinfection, measures against fire, materials of construction); hygiene of infancy (feeding of infants, gymnastics); establishments such as hospitals, asylums, soup-kitchens; hygiene of special establishments (arrangement, heating, etc., of barracks, prisons, schools, cheap houses); residues of life (cemeteries and cremation; household refuse; rain-water and slops, night soil; sewers; emptying of used waters); public conveyances (omnibuses and fiacres; neat-

ness, ventilation, disinfection, cleaning, etc.); smoke; demography; library.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

WE regret to learn that the will of Frederick Cooper Hewitt, which made large bequests for public purposes, including \$500,000 to Yale University, is being contested by a sister.

GOVERNOR JOHN J. JOHNSON, of Minnesota, went to Washington on December 12, to invite President Roosevelt on behalf of the regents to accept the presidency of the University of Minnesota, but he declined this invitation.

DR. SAMUEL AVERY, head professor of chemistry in the University of Nebraska, was elected acting chancellor at a recent meeting of the regents, on account of the resignation of Chancellor Andrews. Dr. Avery will assume the duties of the office on January 1.

HON. TIMOTHY HOPKINS, of Menlo Park, California, well known as a patron of zoological research, and for whom the nudibranch genus of *Hopkinsia* has been named, has been elected president of the board of trustees of Stanford University.

DR. HOCHSTETTER, professor of anatomy at Innsbruck, has been appointed to the chair of anatomy in the University of Vienna.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### THE FIVE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LEIPZIG

DURING August, 1909, the University of Leipzig is to celebrate its Five Hundredth Anniversary. It would be eminently fitting for the Americans who have taken their doctor's degrees at Leipzig to send to the university on that occasion some formal address of congratulation. A list of about one hundred Americans who have taken their degrees at Leipzig has been prepared, including all of the names of American scientists mentioned in "American Men of Science" and such others as could be secured from a few former Leipzig students in the vicinity of New York and New Haven.

A small committee has organized itself in